

Thinking “Outside the Box” Performance Techniques!



Fundamental Truths Concerning Community Bands Using Single Note Lead sheets Directed by Dee Langley

Community Bands that are open for interested musicians are a fun way to perform with other musical instruments. However, It is impractical to develop musical arrangements for random musical instruments. Therefore, community band members need to know how to blend with other musicians regardless of the music selected for the performance.

This workshop session was designed to teach the skills necessary to make up their own on-the-spot arrangements using melody, rhythm, harmony and/or playing by ear. For example, an accordionist should know how to add the basses and know how to play the rhythm on the right hand instead of the left hand. Dee reports that the community bands where she has been music director use the same music for every instrument. This method has produced award-winning folk orchestras.

